



WHEREAS, international education is critical for our future welfare. By studying, learning, and exchanging experiences, we develop a greater appreciation and respect for other people and their cultures, and breakdown barriers to understanding and cooperation, which are vital to peace and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, foreign student exchange programs are just one wonderful opportunity to learn about other people and cultures. Approximately 600,000 international students study in the United States every year; and

WHEREAS, International Education Week is from November 13-17, and the United States Departments of State and Education are teaming up to promote similar efforts during that week that enrich our comprehension of international education; and

WHEREAS, international education and exchange include thousands of programs, public, and private, campus-based and national, that promote the sharing of ideas and experiences across borders. These include study abroad programs, citizen and scholarly exchanges, foreign students on U.S. Campuses, area and foreign language studies, and global approaches to U.S. education; and

WHEREAS, we live in an increasingly interconnected world and improving global literacy among our citizens contributes significantly to our nation's foreign policy, economic competitiveness, and national security; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme, "International Education: Engaging in Global Partnerships and Opportunities," presents a golden opportunity to focus on what it takes to create new partnerships and seize new opportunities in the 21st century:

THEREFORE, I, Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim November 13-17, 2006 as **INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK** in Illinois, and join the campaign by the United States Departments of State and Education to encourage international education.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-SEVENTH day of OCTOBER, in
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
SIX, and of the State of Illinois
the one hundred and EIGHTY-EIGHTH



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SECRETARY OF STATE

Rod Blagojevich

GOVERNOR